

REQUIRED SPECIFICATIONS FOR TREE PLANTING AND CARE

EEA wants to ensure that tree planting work completed creates an opportunity for trees to thrive, not just survive, in urban areas. The guidelines articulated below reflect state urban forestry standards for planting, watering, and protection for new trees. Grant recipients will be required to adhere to these guidelines and incorporate them in any sub-contract agreements for tree planting.

Additionally, a two-year period of tree after-care is expected, including watering, staking, protective measures and mulching as needed. The EEA Tree Planting Program Manager will be available to meet with the grantee periodically during the 2 year after-care to review and confirm ongoing care and maintenance performed.

1. All tree planting will adhere to the current American National Standards Institute (ANSI): Standard A300 Part 6: Tree, Shrub, and Other Woody Plant Management – Standard Practices (Tree Planting)
2. Planting locations must be provided to Dig-Safe to review for utility conflicts before excavation or pavement removal is started and to certify notification of gas, electrical, water, sewer, and communication utilities as necessary. Any other affected utilities should be contacted in accordance with requirements of Massachusetts law.
3. A Massachusetts Certified Arborist (MCA) or International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Certified Arborist is available on-site to supervise tree planting work performed.
4. Tree planting work is guaranteed for one year after completion. If within this period, replacement trees, replacement protection methods or other materials are required to address any defect in planting or installation, the grantee should be prepared to ensure replacement materials, as well as labor to address any defect that may have occurred during planting without additional cost to EEA.
5. Certification statements and/or analytical results for materials such as topsoil, mulch or other fill materials used on-site must be available and provided as requested to demonstrate materials are not excessively acid or alkaline nor contain toxic substances or contaminants.
6. Plantings should have a mulch berm around the tree to facilitate rain water collection at the time of installation. The berm should be maintained for a minimum of two years.
7. Trees used for plantings should be nursery grown under climatic conditions similar to those in Massachusetts; trees should be healthy and free from injuries such as disfiguring knots, girdling roots, sun scald, and injuries or abrasions of the bark; as well as free of plant diseases, pests, scale, etc..
8. Planting takes place from April through June for Spring planting, and September through November for Fall planting.
9. Drip irrigation bags are installed at the time of planting and water provided twice a week for a minimum of 30 days from the date of planting. Trees must be watered during the 2-year after-care period once per week from April 15 through November 15.